

selective inputting means for selectively inputting commands from one set of input devices, including the keyboard without a power control key, to one of the plurality of personal computers; and

code transmitting means for transmitting codes assigned to the power control switches when the power control switches which correspond to the personal computers recognized as being in the power-on state by the recognizing means are pressed again and the personal computers are selected by the selective inputting means.

2. (ONCE AMENDED) A PC switching device installed between a keyboard with a power control key and a plurality of personal computers intended for keyboards with power control keys, comprising:

BI first powering means for powering all of the plurality of personal computers simultaneously by pressing the power control key on the keyboard when the plurality of personal computers are in a power-off state;

recognizing means for recognizing that all of the plurality of personal computers are in the power-on state;

selective inputting means for selectively inputting commands from one set of input devices, including the keyboard with a power control key, to one of the plurality of personal computers;

code transmitting means for transmitting a code assigned to the power control key when the personal computers recognized as being in the power-on state by the recognizing means are selected by the selective inputting means and the power control key is pressed; and

second powering means for powering some of the personal computers when the some of the personal computers recognized as being in a power-off state by the recognizing means are selected by the selective inputting means, and the power control key is pressed again.

3. (ONCE AMENDED) A PC switching device installed between a keyboard with a power control key and a plurality of personal computers capable of being powered using keyboards with power control keys, comprising:

powering means for powering some of the plurality of personal computers previously selected by pressing the power control key on the keyboard when all of the plurality of personal computers are in a power-off state;

recognizing means for recognizing that the selected personal computers are turned on;
selectively inputting means for selectively inputting commands from one set of input devices, including the keyboard with a power control key, to one of the plurality of personal computers; and

code transmitting means for transmitting a code assigned to the power control key when the personal computers recognized as being in the power-on state by the recognizing means are selected by the selective inputting means and the power control key on the keyboard is pressed again.

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4. (ONCE AMENDED) A PC switching device installed between a keyboard and a plurality of personal computers, comprising:

transistors controlling connecting states between power supply terminals of a plurality of personal computers for powering the keyboard and a power receiving terminal of the keyboard; and

comparators comparing a voltage at each of the power supply terminals with a voltage of the power receiving terminal, and turning on some of the transistors when the former is higher than the latter, but tuning off other transistors when the former is lower than the latter.

5. (ONCE AMENDED) A PC switching device installed between a keyboard and a plurality of personal computers, comprising:

transistors controlling connecting states between power supply terminals of a plurality of personal computers for powering the keyboard and a power receiving terminal of the keyboard;

first voltage dividers dividing a voltage at each of the power supply terminals;

second voltage dividers dividing a voltage at the power receiving terminal by a ratio equal to that of a corresponding one of the first voltage dividers; and

comparators comparing a voltage divided by each of the first voltage dividers with a voltage divided by the second voltage dividers, and turning on some of the transistors when the former is higher than the latter, but turning off other transistors when the former is lower than the latter.

6. (TWICE AMENDED) A PC switching device according to claim 4, wherein the comparators are driven by power supplied from the power supply terminals of the plurality of personal computers.

B 7. (TWICE AMENDED) A PC switching device according to claim 4, wherein the comparators are driven by power supplied from the power receiving terminal of the keyboard.

8. (ONCE AMENDED) A PC switching device according to claim 5, wherein the comparators are driven by power supplied from the power supply terminals of the plurality of personal computers.

9. (ONCE AMENDED) A PC switching device according to claim 5, wherein the comparators are driven by power supplied from the power receiving terminal of the keyboard.

REMARKS

Claims 1-9 are pending in this application and have been rejected. Amendments to claims 1-9 are presented herein to improve form without changing substance. No new matter is being presented, and approval and entry are respectfully requested.

Objections to the Claims

In items 1 and 2 on page 2 of the Office Action, the Examiner objected to claims 2 and 5 because of various informalities. Applicants submit that amendments to the claims presented herein correct the informalities. Accordingly, Applicants respectfully request withdrawal of the objections to claims 2 and 5.